

# *Rollin' Along!*

October 2002

A Quarterly Publication From Maricopa County Equipment Services

**Going The**



**Extra Mile**

*From time to time there are employees that go the extra mile to make a customer's day brighter and to make a difference in work flow processes that give better customer service and satisfaction. Here are a few of the "Going The Extra Mile" employees.*

*Marvin Johnson*

*Mike DePaulo & Les Glover*

*Bill Parker*

Mike and Les went to Human Services to teach the STS program drivers proper operation of the wheelchair vans and lifts. Safety and getting the most out of the equipment were the main topics. There was classroom contact, demonstration and hands on participation.

*Chuck Holm*

These actions prevent injuries; reduce down time, and saves money. This proactive approach is the culture that Equipment Services is working to promote.

*Dan Radford*

Give us a call (6-4667) or send an e-mail to "Fix-It" in the global address book for a **free** site evaluation of your fleet management program.

*Edgar Dunn*

*James Mason*

*Jon Sims*

*Kevin Adkison*



*Scott Belter*

*Quintin Bester*



*George Benavides*

*Doug Frawley*



## **Safety Corner**

### **CTS**

If your hands and wrist feel sore as you work, it may be Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, muscle fatigue, tendonitis, or just soreness. It takes a qualified medical professional to diagnose CTS.

The carpal tunnel is a space in the wrist surrounded by bones on one side and ligaments on the other.

Common symptoms of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome include: a tingling sensation in the thumb and fingertips, pain in the hands, reduced dexterity, wrists that feel like they are in a vice, or sharp pain extending up through the forearm and upper arm.

There is no one best treatment for CTS. It requires competent medical assessment. Treatment might involve medication, wrist splints, or even surgery.

It is important to recognize Carpal Tunnel Syndrome after it has started, but it is more important to work to prevent it. Some things you can do to reduce your chances of getting CTS are:

1. Change way of doing high-risk tasks.
2. Constant exercises designed to strengthen the fingers, hands, wrist and arms.
3. Gripping hand tools properly and with less force.
4. Rotate work activity.

## **Employee Corner**



**Chris Klemz**

Chris is our newest admin person. Chris will be assisting Barb, Marybeth, Mario, Rod and others with her multi-faceted background and talents. Chris comes to us from that cold part of the country (Minnesota). Chris has been in building, real-estate and administrative support positions and just seems to love the valley. Chris's word for the day is "Gute Besserung" (Good Health).

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**Adolfo Alvarez**

Adolfo joins the PM shop with over 25 years of mechanical experience. Adolfo is a Native of Arizona who remembers when there were no freeways and nothing but orange groves. Adolfo enjoys big game hunting, baseball, football and can't think of a better place to live.

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**Welcome!**

## **Employee Corner**



**John Williams**

John has accepted a new challenge with the Customer Service Team as of September 16<sup>th</sup>. John will be moving from the shop floor to his new challenge with great expectations. John has been in the vehicle & equipment repair business for 30 years and with Equipment Services for the last 8. John is another Native of Arizona who just loves our warm climate. John is an avid outdoorsman with emphasis on camping and Scouting.

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**Don Fuqua**

Don retires after 12 years with Equipment Services. Don came to Equipment Services in May of 1990 after working many years with the operating engineers of Arizona. Don states that he has enjoyed the past 12 years and is looking forward to doing all of the things around the house that he has been putting off. I really think he's going to go to Cottonwood and relax for a while.

***Have A Great Retirement***

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## AAA ARIZONA FUEL REPORTS

### **AAA ARIZONA REPORTS: STATE'S FUEL PRICES FALL BELOW NATIONAL AVERAGE**

Phoenix, AZ — October 10, 2002 — For the first time in more than five months, the state's average cost of fuel fell below the national average, according to AAA Arizona's Weekly Fuel Survey. This week's survey shows the statewide average price of self-serve regular unleaded gasoline dipped slightly from \$1.421 to \$1.414 per gallon, 3.3 cents below the national average of \$1.447.

Twin hurricanes that blew through the Gulf of Mexico in the last two weeks helped boost gasoline prices in the Great Lakes, Midwest and Southeast and lifted the national average gas price 2.7 cents, due to temporary energy production and shipping disruptions. The price of crude oil, however, seems to have slipped closer to \$28 per barrel.

Across the country, California continues its reign as the state with the highest gasoline price average of \$1.587 per gallon, followed by New York: \$1.552 and Wisconsin: \$1.537. While the cheapest average fuel price was spotted in Georgia at \$1.321 per gallon, followed by South Carolina: \$1.353 and New Jersey: \$1.355.

Locally, the most notable price dip occurred in Scottsdale where the average cost of fuel decreased 2.4 cents to \$1.393 per gallon. The East Valley was a close second, slipping two cents to \$1.363 per gallon. Other regional prices are listed below.

	Unleaded	Mid-Grade	Premium	Diesel	Propane
<b>Phoenix</b>	1.384	1.481	1.564	1.544	
<b>East Valley</b>	1.363	1.462	1.541	1.524	
<b>West Valley</b>	1.382	1.480	1.604	1.541	
<b>Scottsdale</b>	1.393	1.506	1.590	1.540	
<b>Tucson</b>	1.346	1.455	1.544	1.540	
<b>Flagstaff</b>	1.525	1.592	1.682	1.584	
<b>Yuma</b>	1.471	1.534	1.623	1.541	
<b>Statewide</b>	1.414	1.474	1.560	1.535	
<b>National</b>	1.447	1.537	1.592	1.497	
<b>Maricopa County Equip. Serv.</b>	1.340			1.240	0.970

Save fuel and money while driving  
safely and protecting the environment

Effective use of energy is a learned behavior. To conserve, we must slow down and find ways to do more with less. The benefits of fuel conservation are a healthier environment, financial savings and improved safety on our roads.

**PROPANE**  
EXCEPTIONAL ENERGY™

## **Trux Stop**

Hi Folks:

Thanks for stopping by. I would like to share some Cars versus Truck Crash Statistics that may be helpful in preventing a vehicle accident and reduce insurance / liability costs.

Drivers of cars, small trucks and SUVs are responsible for more than half ( 54 % ) of all car versus large truck crashes , according to a study by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. Each year, more than 5,000 people are killed and 140,000 are injured in crashes between passenger vehicles and large commercial trucks weighing more than 10,000 pounds.

The study noted that although driving in the vicinity of a big truck is different from driving near another passenger car, most motorists don't adjust their driving behavior to accommodate the difference. The study examined 94 factors that contribute to crashes. It found that 80% of car drivers committed at least one unsafe driving act based on police reports, survivor testimony, and witness observations, compared to only 27% of truck drivers. Given the size difference between cars and large trucks, it is no surprise that the occupants of a car or light truck are almost always the victims in a fatal car vs. truck crash.

According to the study, the most common actions that get drivers of both cars and large trucks into trouble include:

- Running off the road or failure to keep in lane
- Failure to yield the right of way
- Speeding or driving too fast for conditions
- Failure to obey signs and signals
- Driver inattention

By adjusting driving styles, all motorists can safely and confidently **share the road** with all vehicles.

Data Source: Fleet Management August 2002

**"Service First and Always"**

## **Check This Out**

**Fix-It**

Don't forget, Equipment Services has added a special technology feature to better communicate your needs and concerns. Effective December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001, you can simply e-mail your needs, concerns and comments, or request a PM schedule time. On the "To" line, type in "fix-it". This will send your message to our Customer Service staff and generate a return response to you ASAP on regular workdays.

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### **Check Out The New Equipment Services Web Page**



[http://www.maricopa.gov/equipment\\_services/](http://www.maricopa.gov/equipment_services/)

Our Web Page will have all of the important numbers and information needed for a successful journey to our service centers and fuel sites. Remember to look often; there will be changes from time to time to better serve our customers.

### ***Did You Know...***

- Theodore Roosevelt once said he had ridden in an automobile twice in his life, and that was enough. However, he was the first president to own a car, and the first to drive one.
- Passenger vehicles consume 50% of US transportation energy, while freight trucks consume 23%.
- In most major American cities, about 40% of land use is directly or indirectly dedicated to automobile operation, storage, and maintenance.
- Americans spend 1.6 million hours stuck in traffic. Each year, the time and fuel wasted in traffic congestion adds up to a cost of about \$40 billion.